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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/613,067 | 07/10/2000 | Mitsuru Nagasaka | 450100-02611 | 9087 |

20999 7590 06/19/2003

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EXAMINER

MA, JOHNNY

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
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2614

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JP

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/613,067

Applicant(s)

NAGASAKA ET AL.

Examiner

Johnny Ma

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 July 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: "SP3" of Figure 4. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the disclosed "step S1" should read "step SP1" (page 11, line 1) and "flash memory 13" should read "flash memory 31" (page 12, lines 7,9, and 13).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Williams et al. (US 5,977,964).

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As to claim 1, the claimed memory means for storing user preference information; means for detecting reception of a plurality of headline information related to an information; and means for searching, based on said user preference information stored in said memory means, headline information coincided with said user preference information among received headline information at the time when the reception of said plurality of headline information is detected by said detecting means. The Williams et al. reference discloses a method and apparatus for automatically configuring a system based on a user's monitored system interaction and preferred system access times where in one embodiment, the plurality of user profiles are stored locally, in system 100, and the entire user profile is used to determine which user is using the entertainment system (9:31-34). The Williams et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment of the present invention, user profile database 800 also includes storage for user-defined requests. System controller 104 allows individual users to input requests for particular suggestions. These requests can be for specific titles of shows/movies or keywords, the request may include wildcard (e.g., any shows with "star" in the title), and can also be negative (e.g., no shows with "star" in the title). Given a particular search request, system controller 104 searches the programming information each time it receives updated programming information (via an on-line service, diskette, etc. as discussed above), and prompts the user with the found program information in step 402 (11:61-67; 12:1-5).

As to claim 2, the claimed display means for displaying said headline information searched by said searching means. The Williams et al. reference discloses having developed a list of programming suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an interactive pop-up window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402 (11:49-52).

As to claim 3, the claimed recording means for recording said information related to said headline information searched by said searching means. The Williams et al. reference discloses if, however, the user elects to forego the suggested programming in step 404, system controller 104 may then prompt the user with the option of recording one of the suggested programs in step 408. If the user elects to record one of the suggested programs, system controller 104 configures system 100 to record the program selection to any one of the available recording media (12:8-14).

As to claim 4, the claimed wherein said user preference information includes a plurality of preference items. The Williams et al. reference discloses as depicted, for television/monitor 102, user profile database 800 tracks user preferred channels, volume, program genre information, whether to block content information, and whether supplemental programming is requested with a particular channel (5:59-65). Additional preference information may also be stored in user profile database 800, including top ten favorite shows, most frequently watched/listened to source(s), most frequently watched/listened to channel(s)/station(s) per source, typical watching/listening periods, favorite genre(s), favorite commercial(s), favorite actor(s)/actress(es) (6:63-67; 7:1-2).

As to claim 5, the claimed wherein said information is broadcast program transmitted from broadcast stations. The Williams et al. reference discloses in one embodiment, for example, system 100 receives programming input from any or all of the following sources: cable broadcast 124, satellite broadcast 126 (e.g., via a satellite dish), very high frequency (VHF) or ultra high frequency (UHF) radio frequency communication of the broadcast networks 134 (e.g., via an aerial antenna), and/or the telephone/computer network interface (4:31-37). The Williams

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et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment, the program database is part of system controller 104, and is updated periodically by accessing a remote server (not shown) via telephone/network communications 128 or via other mediums such as distributed diskettes or CD ROMs, a vertical blanking interval (VBI) of an analog signal, or an additional data stream corresponding to a digital video signal (e.g., from a satellite system). (8:48-56).

As to claim 6, the claimed storing user preference information; detecting reception of a plurality of headline information related to an information; and searching, based on said user preference information stored at said storing step, headline information coincided with said user preference information among received headline information at the time when the reception of said plurality of headline information is detected at said detecting step. The Williams et al. reference discloses a method and apparatus for automatically configuring a system based on a user's monitored system interaction and preferred system access times where in one embodiment, the plurality of user profiles are stored locally, in system 100, and the entire user profile is used to determine which user is using the entertainment system (9:31-34). The Williams et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment of the present invention, user profile database 800 also includes storage for user-defined requests. System controller 104 allows individual users to input requests for particular suggestions. These requests can be for specific titles of shows/movies or keywords, the request may include wildcard (e.g., any shows with "star" in the title), and can also be negative (e.g., no shows with "star" in the title). Given a particular search request, system controller 104 searches the programming information each time it receives updated programming information (via an on-line service, diskette, etc. as discussed above), and prompts the user with the found program information in step 402 (11:61-67; 12:1-5).

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As to claim 7, the claimed displaying said headline information searched at said searching step. The Williams et al. reference discloses having developed a list of programming suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an interactive pop-up window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402 (11:49-52).

As to claim 8, the claimed recording said information related to said headline information searched at said searching step. The Williams et al. reference discloses if, however, the user elects to forego the suggested programming in step 404, system controller 104 may then prompt the user with the option of recording one of the suggested programs in step 408. If the user elects to record one of the suggested programs, system controller 104 configures system 100 to record the program selection to any one of the available recording media (12:8-14).

As to claim 9, the claimed said user preference information includes a plurality of preference items. The Williams et al. reference discloses as depicted, for television/monitor 102, user profile database 800 tracks user preferred channels, volume, program genre information, whether to block content information, and whether supplemental programming is requested with a particular channel (5:59-65). Additional preference information may also be stored in user profile database 800, including top ten favorite shows, most frequently watched/listened to source(s), most frequently watched/listened to channel(s)/station(s) per source, typical watching/listening periods, favorite genre(s), favorite commercial(s), favorite actor(s)/actress(es) (6:63-67; 7:1-2).

As to claim 10, the claimed wherein said information is broadcast program transmitted from broadcast stations. The Williams et al. reference discloses in one embodiment, for example, system 100 receives programming input from any or all of the following sources: cable

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broadcast 124, satellite broadcast 126 (e.g., via a satellite dish), very high frequency (VHF) or ultra high frequency (UHF) radio frequency communication of the broadcast networks 134 (e.g., via an aerial antenna), and/or the telephone/computer network interface (4:31-37). The Williams et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment, the program database is part of system controller 104, and is updated periodically by accessing a remote server (not shown) via telephone/network communications 128 or via other mediums such as distributed diskettes or CD ROMs, a vertical blanking interval (VBI) of an analog signal, or an additional data stream corresponding to a digital video signal (e.g., from a satellite system). (8:48-56).

As to claim 11, the claimed remote commander means; memory means for storing user preference information entered from said remote commander means; means for detecting reception of a plurality of headline information related to an information; and means for searching, based on said user preference information stored in said memory means, headline information coincided with said user preference information among received headline information at the time when the reception of said plurality of headline information is detected by said detecting means. The Williams et al. reference discloses in one embodiment of the system controller 600, keyboard and pointing device are coupled to standard I/O bus 608 with a serial communication interface cable, while in alternate embodiments it may be communicatively coupled with an infrared (IR) interface or a radio-frequency (RF) interface (14:30-35). Williams et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment of the present invention, user profile database 800 also includes storage for user-defined requests. System controller 104 allows individual users to input requests for particular suggestions. These requests can be for specific titles of shows/movies or keywords, the request may include wildcard (e.g., any shows with "star" in the

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title), and can also be negative (e.g., no shows with "star" in the title). Given a particular search request, system controller 104 searches the programming information each time it receives updated programming information (via an on-line service, diskette, etc. as discussed above), and prompts the user with the found program information in step 402 (11:61-67; 12:1-5).

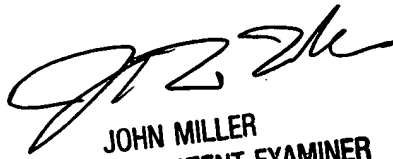
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnny Ma whose telephone number is (703) 305-8099. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 6:00 pm (First Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-5399 for regular communications and (703) 308-5399 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

jm
June 13, 2003


JOHN MILLER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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